AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. - 5.   (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, further comprising storing information relating to e-mail accounts at a central location.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to identifiers of receiver/decoders, and wherein the information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to smartcard numbers of receiver/decoders.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the broadcast signal is part of a subscription service and information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to information relating to the subscription service.

9. - 15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital data stream.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the notification message is sent as a section of the digital data stream.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the notification message is sent by way of an entitlement management message.

19. - 22.   (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating with a mail centre, comprising:

   running an email application on a receiver/decoder, wherein the receiver/decoder is a
      receiver/decoder of broadcast signals and wherein the receiver/decoder is used to
      provide a user with access to a plurality of television programs and services; and
   displaying with the receiver/decoder by means of the email application an email received
      in a broadcast signal at said receiver/decoder.

24. - 25.   (Canceled)

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26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising means for storing information relating to e-mail accounts at a central location.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to identifiers of receiver/decoders, and preferably wherein the information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to smartcard numbers of receiver/decoders.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the broadcast signal is part of a subscription service and information relating to e-mail accounts is linked to information relating to the subscription service.

29. - 33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 38, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital data stream.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the apparatus is adapted to send the notification message as a section of the digital data stream.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein the apparatus is adapted to send the notification by way of an entitlement management message.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for transferring an e-mail from a mail center to a user, comprising:

        means for running an email application on a receiver/decoder, wherein the receiver/decoder is a receiver/decoder of broadcast signals and wherein the receiver/decoder is used to provide a user with access to a plurality of television programs and services; and

        means for displaying with the receiver/decoder by means of the email application an email received in a broadcast signal at said receiver/decoder.

39. - 48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the broadcast is via cable or optical fiber.

50. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 23, wherein the email is sent without any prompt.

51. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 23, further comprising requesting by the receiver/decoder for broadcast notification from the mail centre of waiting emails.

52. (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the broadcast is via cable or optical fiber.

53. (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the email is sent without any prompt.

54. (Previously Presented)   The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the receiver/decoder send requests to the mail center for broadcast notification of waiting emails.